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The President's Daily Brief

25 March 1971

47

Top Secret

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

25 March 1971

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Chile's Christian Democrats have begun to stiffen their opposition in the congress to the Allende government. *(Page 1)*

Panama *(Page 2)* 50X1

Burmese *Page 3.* 50X1

Chinese Soviet *(Page 4)* 50X1

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CHILE

On 22 March the opposition Christian Democrats seized on several issues to challenge the Allende government in congress. The issues included the alleged involvement of government officials in a shady copper sale maneuver on the world market and amendments to the government's constitutional reform bill nationalizing remaining US copper holdings. On the same day party leaders refused Allende's offer to join the government.

The Christian Democrats seem finally to have concluded that their accomodating attitude was strengthening the Popular Unity (UP) government's steady consolidation of power and further weakening their own divided party. They hope their challenges will improve their modest chances in the nationwide municipal elections on 4 April.

The Communist Party is concerned about the increasing and outspoken opposition to the government, [redacted] *and plans to counterattack strongly. Communist leaders want to remove all remaining UP opponents from the information media and have already staged one of a series of demonstrations planned to mobilize popular support for the administration. Both the Communists and the extremist Movement of the Revolutionary Left are reported to be aware of plots against the government and are making plans to counter such action.*

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PANAMA

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BURMA

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USSR-CHINA

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NOTES

USSR: [redacted] 50X1

South Vietnam: Evidence has been increasing in recent days of Communist plans to intensify shellings and sapper activities in South Vietnam later this month. Prisoners have reported that elements of three North Vietnamese regiments in the central highlands are preparing to attack a South Vietnamese strongpoint near the tri-border area. [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] Communist units plan limited actions 50X1
against selected targets in several areas of the country, and [redacted] in the Da Nang area an especially 50X1
vigorous propaganda campaign will be launched to brand the recent fighting in Laos as a major South Vietnamese defeat.

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